

1                   SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRANSMITTING AND UTILIZING  
                     ELECTRONIC PROGRAMS GUIDE INFORMATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           Television schedule information transmission and  
           utilization systems transmit TV schedule data and associated  
           network control messages provided by computer as packets via  
           the Video Blanking Interval (VBI) lines in the TV signal from  
           various television program providers. This data is acquired  
           10 by regional data processing systems and forwarded by the  
           regional data processing systems to subscriber units and used  
           to construct an internal database. This internal database can  
           be accessed by the subscriber unit to display a TV schedule  
           for the channels that are received by the user's TV.

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